

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00 CAB-02 DOTE-00 L-03

FAA-00 /042 W

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R 071640Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3555

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, WB, US, UK, RF, UR, GE, GW

SUBJECT: INTERFLUG OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS

REF: USBERLIN 2615

1. FOLLOWING IS MISSION TRANSLATION OF EDITORIAL FROM  
DECEMBER 7 TAGGESSPIEGEL WHICH SUMS UP THE ESSENTIAL  
CONCERNS IN BERLIN OVER FRG MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT'S  
GRANTING OF OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS TO INTERFLUG:

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED  
DISRUPTIVE OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS

UNTIL LAST WEEKEND, PRACTICES LAY UNNOTICED IN  
BUREAUCRATIC NICHES WHICH WERE DANGEROUS TO BERLIN,  
AND BETOKENED THE EXPANSION OF THE GDR " INTERFLUG" AIR-  
COMPANY AT THE EXPENSE OF FREE BERLIN AIR TRAFFIC. TILL  
WE PUBLISHED THE STORY ON SUNDAY, IT WAS NOT KNOWN  
THAT THE FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORT  
STRICKEN WITH POLITICAL BLINDNESS--GRANTED CASE-BY-  
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CASE APPROVAL OF CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM SCHOENEFELD  
VIA THE FRG TO ZURICH WITHOUT ANY VISIBLE COUNTER-

CONCESSION BY THE GDR. UNTIL THAT DATE IT ALSO WAS KEPT SECRET THAT " INTERFLUG", ON NOVEMBER 2, HAD APPLIED FOR OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FOR SCHEDULED FLIGHTS ON THE SAME ROUTE.

WE REPORTED THAT THE FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORT HAS ALREADY APPROVED OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS ALSO FOR THOSE SCHEDULED FLIGHTS. BONN DENIES THAT. BUT IT IS CERTAIN THAT THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF PROMISES WHICH ENABLED " SWISSAIR" AND " INTERFLUG" TO PREPARE DETAILED SCHEDULES. ONLY AFTER OUR PUBLICATION DID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STATE THAT OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS WOULD BE LINKED TO AVIATION COUNTER-CONCESSIONS. AMONG THESE, " LUFTHANSA" SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO MAKE USE OF ITS RIGHTS FROM THE GERMAN-SOVIET AVIATION AGREEMENT TO LAND IN TEGEL WHEN FLYING THE ROUTE FRANKFURT-MOSCOW, WHICH WOULD PRESUPPOSE GDR OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS. MOREOVER, BONN NOW REMINDS THE GDR OF THE PENDING APPLICATIONS BY AUA, SAS, AND THY WHICH, WOULD ALSO REQUIRE GDR OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS IN ORDER TO MAKE USE OF THE LANDING RIGHTS IN TEGEL ALREADY GRANTED BY THE WESTERN ALLIES. TO CONCLUDE A TURBULENT WEEKEND, " SWISSAIR, AFTER IT LEARNED THAT OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FOR " INTERFLUG" WERE STILL IN DISPUTE IN BONN, ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD POSTPONED ITS PLAN TO START FLIGHTS TO SCHOENEFELD ON APRIL 1, NOTING THAT THE SCHEDULE ALREADY PREPARED INVOLVED POOL TRAFFIC WHICH COULD BE REALIZED ONLY IF BOTH COMPANIES COULD FLY THE ROUTE.

IT SEEMS THAT AT THE LAST MOMENT IT WAS MADE CLEAR TO THE FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORT WHAT POLITICAL DISRUPTION FURTHER UNILATERAL GRANTING OF OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS COULD CAUSE, ESPECIALLY AS CONCERNS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRAFFIC AGREEMENT WITH MOSCOW AS WELL AS OTHER POSSIBILITIES ( ABOVE ALL THE NECESSITY OF OBTAINING AN AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH THE GDR) WHICH PRESERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE FRG AND BERLIN.

END UNCLASSIFIED.

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GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, AIR TRAFFIC, PRESS COMMENTS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, BERLIN AIR ACCESS, AVIATION AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760452-1304  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 USBERLIN 2615  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 03 NOV 2003  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTERFLUG OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EAIR, WB, US, INTERFLUG  
**To:** STATE BONN  
**Type:** TE  
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